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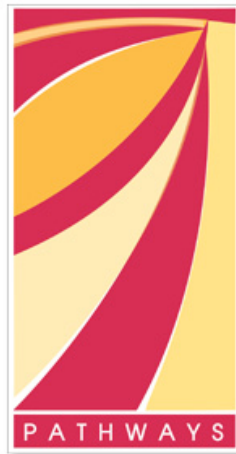
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Conference News - January



OCWM 2010 Remains Stable

As the Southeast Conference closes its books on 2010, we report that our OCWM (Our Church's Wider Mission) Basic Support for 2010 is **\$285,000** up \$8500 from 2009. ***We are deeply grateful to our local congregations for their continuing support and affirmation of our ministries together, particularly in these challenging times.*** A fuller report will be forthcoming.



A New Partnership with Lancaster Theological Seminary and the CPR to Train for Ministry

Over the last several months, the conference has been developing a vision for a four-year program of preparing people for ministry guided by the Ministry Issues Pronouncement Implementation. This program will begin to take the place of the TAP program over the next several years. Named "Pathways", this program will provide two year training for lay leaders, three years for licensed ministers and four years for candidate on the path to ordination. Pathways is being developed in collaboration with Lancaster Theological Seminary and the Center for Progressive Renewal. Over the last few months, Kathy Clark and Tim Downs have been making presentations in national settings to leadership in other conferences. During the spring,

we will be testing technologies, writing grants, and developing relationships with conferences, which might be interested in working with us. It is our hope to launch this new endeavor in the fall of 2011.

Global Theological Education Participants Return

Our group of eight sturdy world travelers who are a part of the Global Theological Education program of the Southeast Conference in collaboration with Lancaster Theological Seminary returned to Atlanta on January 26. By all accounts, they had a stimulating engagement with interfaith conversations, conversations with our ecumenical partners The Church of Christ in Thailand, visits to Burmese refugee camps, and conversations about peace making. We understand there were also interesting encounters with elephants and unanticipated swims in rivers... stay tuned for more information in the next communication!



UCC News

UCC Newsroom

Headlines from the United Church of Christ

UCC, Disciples engage issues of immigration policy, border ministry

Inspired by the theme "Turning Walls Into Tables," constituents of the UCC and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) met Feb. 10-13 at Iglesia Cristiana Casa De Oracion in San Diego for a border conference to dialogue about immigration policies and border ministry.



UCCOSSN Annual Meeting

The supporting hands of the on-going ministries of the United Church of Christ is holding its 2011 Annual Meeting "Go Tell It On the Mountains." The meeting, hosted by **First Church of Christ, Congregational, UCC** | North Conway, NH will be April 28-May 1. We are the **Office Support Staff** from local churches, conferences and national agencies and instrumentalities. We look forward to meeting with you this April. Follow the links below for additional event information.

- [UCCOSSN 2011 Annual Meeting Flyer](#)
- [UCCOSSN 2011 Annual Meeting Hotel Reservation](#)
- [UCCOSSN 2011 Annual Meeting Registration Form](#)



Freshening Up for 2011!

The Campaign Steering Committee continues visiting churches to say THANK YOU . . . for their financial pledge.

This *Transforming Churches* -

Transforming Lives Campaign is ALL ABOUT the churches; our churches of the wonderful Southeast Conference.

Whether big churches or small....the goal is the same; to expand mission and ministry in the Southeast Conference. Read on and see what visits to LaFayette, AL and Athens, AL were all about.

Winter Wonders - "Peace Makers: Nurturing Peace Within"

Youth from 6th through 12th grades braved the elements and traveled across the Southern and Southeast Conferences to meet in Blowing Rock, North Carolina the weekend of January 14-17. A record breaking week of winter snow fall did not keep these youth at home.



The Annual Winter Youth Retreat hosted



200+ youth and adults from across the Southern and Southeast Conferences enjoyed fun in the snow and met loads of new friends from other UCC churches.

Peacemakers: Nurturing Peace Within was the the theme for this year's

conference. The weekend provided an opportunity for creating new friendships, enjoying the snow, getting some exercise, eating fabulous food, spiritual growth and life changing conversation. The Rev. Da Vita D. McCallister was our session leader and facilitated our time around being ***Peacemakers: Nurturing Peace Within. Texting just expanded even more!*** Watch for a more indepth insider report coming next month.

SEC and CPR Collaborate in Online Course Offering

Tim Downs will be leading the second online UCC history and polity class beginning on February 26th and ending April 30th. The class, which is a comprehensive overview of the United Church of Christ, will meet the history and polity requirements for candidates seeking authorization for ministry in the UNITED Church of Christ. A recent graduate of the class remarked, "It was the best class I have had online, and I recommend it as a way to get to know the denomination. The interaction among the class members was very meaningful, and the instructors were excellent". You can register by going to www.progressiverenewal.org; click on the Online Learning Center and on to Course offerings. The course tuition is \$500.

Other Online Courses (5 weeks) being offered through the Center Progressive Renewal this February:

> Dynamic Leadership in the Smaller Membership Church - This five week course will explore theologies of size and how to shape thriving, faithful ministries in smaller congregations (typically defined as having a worship average attendance of less than 100). The course will be led by **Rev. Elizabeth Dilley**, pastor of First Congregational United Church of Christ, Red Oak, Iowa. For more information [visit progressiverenewal.org](http://visitprogressiverenewal.org).

> Using Appreciative Inquiry Tools to Lead Change - In this five week course participants will be walked through a practical approach to using the tools of Appreciative Inquiry to lead change in their setting. This process can benefit any congregation, but particularly new congregations, congregations in transition, and churches looking to make the next step in growth. This course will be led by **Rev. Gregg Carlson**, a UCC Minister and Director of Online Learning for the Center for Progressive Renewal. For more information [visit progressiverenewal.org](http://visitprogressiverenewal.org).

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► Conference Minister

► TAP Director

► SEC Donations

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► Communications Director

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FAVORITE LINKS

► Bridge 4 Faith

► The Center for Progressive Renewal

► United Church of Christ

► Mission Insite

► Resource Center

EVENTS CALENDAR

« < February 2011 > »

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	1	2	3	4	5

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